AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following new paragraph:

This application is the National Phase filing of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP03/08690, filed July 9, 2003~~-~~, and claims priority from Japanese application 2002-201856, filed July 10, 2002.

Please replace the paragraph bridging page 16 and page 17 with the following new paragraph:

The protein of the present invention is a secretory or membrane protein, and usually translated as a precursor polypeptide having signal peptide at N-terminus in the living body, and subjected to processing by signal peptidase to become mature (or pro) protein. The cleavage site (N-terminus of mature (pro) protein) of the signal peptide can be determined, for example, by subjecting the fully or partially purified protein of the present invention to ~~Adman~~Edman degradation, or can be estimated from the primary structure of the precursor polypeptide using a known mathematic algorithm. Such algorithm includes, for example, the algorithm as described in Nielsen et al., Int. Neural Syst., 8(5-6): 581-599 (1997) [the algorithm is incorporated into a Signal P program (available on a WWW server: ~~http://~~www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/SignalP/)], the algorithm as described in Emanuelsson et al., J. Mol. Biol. 300: 1005-1016 (2000) [the algorithm is incorporated into a Target P program (available on a WWW server: ~~http://~~www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/TargetP/)], the algorithm as described in von Heijne, Nucl. Acids Res., 14: 4683 (1986) [the algorithm is incorporated into a PSORT II program (available on a WWW server: ~~http://~~psort.ims.u-tokyo.ac.jp/form2.html)], the algorithm is incorporated into a SOSUI (Signal) program Beta Version (available on a WWW server:

~~http://~~sosui.proteome.bio.tuat.ac.jp/cgi-bin/sosui.cgi?/sosuisignal/sosui- signal_submit.html), etc., but not limited thereto. For example, when the above-mentioned PSORT II program is used, the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence represented by each of the above-mentioned SEQ ID NOs is predicted to be cleaved between the amino acid No.-1 and the amino acid No. 1, respectively, but it does not mean that this is always correspondent to the actual cleavage site, and the signal cleavage position may be changed by the cell species expressing the protein of the present invention. Accordingly, the protein of the present invention also comprises a protein comprising an amino acid sequence starting after the amino acid No. 1, among the amino acid sequences represented by each of the above-mentioned SEQ ID NOs, or an amino acid sequence wherein one or more amino acids are added or deleted from the amino acid sequence.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 34, line 7 with the following new paragraph:

Cloning means for the nucleic acid encoding the protein of the present invention includes a method comprising performing 5'- and 3'-RACE (rapid amplification of cDNA ends) reaction with mRNA derived from the objective tissue as a template by using two kinds of synthetic DNA primer having the partial base sequence of the identified and sequenced cDNA as described above and a suitable adaptor primer, ligating obtained each amplification fragment with restriction enzyme and ligase, etc. to give full length cDNA, or a method comprising screening again by hybridization from the library using DNA comprising partial or whole region of sequenced cDNA as described above as a probe, to give full length cDNA, etc., but not limited thereto. When RACE method is used, the adaptor primer is preferably a primer in which oligo dT is added to the 3' end of any adaptor sequence (e.g., a sequence comprising a restriction enzyme recognition site for subcloning). In the 5'-RACE, where the endogenous terminal

transferase activity of a reverse transcription enzyme is used, an adaptor primer in which dG is added to the 3' end is preferably used since several dC's are usually added. In the case of hybridization, the hybridization can be performed by a known method or an analogue thereof, for example, according to the method described in Molecular Cloning, 2nd ed. (J. Sambrook et al., Cold Spring Harbor Lab. Press, 1989). If a commercially available library is used, hybridization can be performed according to the instructions of the attached manufacturer's protocol.

Please replace the paragraph bridging page 59 and page 60 with the following new paragraph:

When the protein of the present invention is a membrane receptor, examples of the test compound include known ligands (e.g., angiotensin, bombesin, canavinoid, cholecystokinin, glutamine, serotonin, melatonin, neuropeptide Y, opioid, purines, vasopressin, oxytocin, PACAP (pituitary adenylate cyclase-activating polypeptide), secretin, glucagon, calcitonin, adrenomedulin, somatostatin, GHRH (growth hormone-releasing hormone), CRF (corticotropin-releasing factor), ACTH (adrenocorticotropin hormone), GRP (gastrin-releasing peptide), PTH (parathyroid hormone), VIP (vasoactive intestinal and related polypeptide), somatostatin, dopamine, motilin, amylin, bradykinin, CGRP (calcitonin gene-related peptide), leukotrienes, pancreastatin, prostaglandins, thromboxane, adenosine, adrenaline, α- and β-chemokine (e.g., IL (interleukin)-8, GRO (growth-related oncogene) α, GRO β, GRO γ, NAP (neutrophil-activating protein)-2, ENA (epithelial cell-derived neutrophil-activating factor)-78, PF4 (platelet factor 4), IP10 (interferon-inducible protein 10), GCP (granulocyte chemoattractant protein)-2, MCP (monocyte chemoattractant protein)-1, HC14, MCP-3, I-309, MIP (macrophage inflammatory protein)1α, MIP-1β, RANTES (regulated on activation normal T cell expressed and secreted), etc.), endothelin, enterogastrin, histamine, neurotensin, TRH (thyrotropin-releasing hormone),

pancreatic polypeptide, galanin, etc.) as well as other substances, for example, tissue extracts and cell culture supernatants from mammals (e.g., humans, mice, rats, swine, bovine, sheep, monkeys, etc.). For example, the tissue extract or cell culture supernatant is added to the receptor protein of the present invention and fractionated while assaying cell stimulation activities, etc. to finally give a single ligand. On the other hand, when the protein of the present invention is a secretory protein, for example, tissue extracts derived from human or other mammals, intact cell, cell membrane fractions, cell culture supernatant, etc. may be used as the test compound as described above, in addition to the known receptors for the above-mentioned ligand. For example, the tissue extracts, intact cell, cell membrane fraction, cell culture supernatant, etc. is added to the secretory protein of the present invention, fractionated while assaying cell stimulation activity, etc., finally to give single receptor, etc.